

# INDONESIA NEWS

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## KUPANG CULINARY AND TOURISM PARK

President Joko Widodo (second from right) accompanied by Minister of State Secretary Pratikno (second from left), NTT Governor Viktor B Laiskodat (right), Director General of Human Settlements Diana Kusumastuti (left) and Mayor of Kupang Jefri Riwo Kore delivered remarks before inaugurating the tourist park. new and culinary delights at Kelapa Lima Beach, Kupang City, NTT, Thursday (24/3). The President hopes that the construction of Kelapa Lima Beach can provide comfort for tourists visiting the area.

IDN/ANTARA



## Doctors Should Adapt to Keep Pace with Health Transformation: Jokowi

**President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) has called on doctors in Indonesia to become adaptive to the latest technological developments in order to have high competitiveness for keeping up with health transformation.**

“THE implementation of health transformation cannot be delayed,” the President noted virtually at the opening of the 31st Congress of the Indonesian Medical Association (IDI) and the 22nd Congress of Indonesian Doctor’s Wives Association (IIDW) on Wednesday (23/3).

Jokowi remarked that in the wake of the

COVID-19 pandemic, which had protracted for the past two years, the health system was improved to become more resilient in facing various conditions, as the pandemic had caused technological disruption that also affected Indonesian medicine and pharmacy sectors.

Hence, the president has pressed to expedite

transformation of the healthcare system to realize excellent and equitable medical services, especially for the community in the frontier, remote, and disadvantaged (3T) regions. “Furthermore, the transformation of medical education system must also be accelerated to produce superior doctors with mastery in modern medical technology and are able to compete with doctors from all over the world,” he remarked.

In addition to inaugurating the congresses, he officiated the Indonesian Doctors Service Monument that is dedicated to Indonesian doctors who succumbed to the disease while handling the COVID-19 pandemic. “During the pandemic, we have lost a lot

of doctors and medical workers. They were very loyal and dedicated in fulfilling their humanitarian tasks,” Jokowi stated.

Hence, the president affirmed that establishment of the monument aims to honor and reminisce about the doctors, who died in dealing with COVID-19.

The monument is expected to always encourage Indonesian doctors to become health service vanguards. “All praises be to God, with the help of Indonesian doctors, we have successfully mitigated the pandemic. The government will continue to expedite vaccination and keep encouraging the public to be disciplined in implementing health protocols,” the president added. (\*)

## Jokowi’s Visit Shows Seriousness to Reduce Stunting in NTT: BKKBN

**PRESIDENT** Joko Widodo’s (Jokowi’s) visit to Kesetnana Village, South Mollo Sub-district, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), on Thursday, reflected the country’s seriousness in tackling stunting in children, the National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) stated.

“President Jokowi will visit South Central Timor in NTT, considering that NTT is a priority province for stunting handling, with a prevalence of 37.8 percent in 2021. It is the highest average of stunting prevalence rate for all provinces in Indonesia that reaches

24.4 percent,” Head of BKKBN Hasto Wardoyo noted in a written statement on Thursday (24/3).

Wardoyo remarked that Kesetnana Village, which Jokowi plans to visit on Thursday, is an overview of the 278 villages in South Central Timor District, with a stunting prevalence rate of 48.3 percent based on the 2021 Indonesian Nutritional Status Study (SSGI). The village has become the main focus of the visit since stunting in the area was caused by the difficulty in getting access to clean water, poor economic conditions, and low education

in addition to the fact that most residents of Kesetnana Village did not have proper toilet facilities and did not understand the importance of health education.

On the other hand, the head of state also highlighted the results of the 2021 SSGI data which stated that NTT had 15 districts were assigned the red status or have a stunting prevalence rate of above 30 percent. Moreover, seven districts and cities are assigned the yellow status or have a prevalence rate reaching 20 to 30 percent. None of the districts and cities were assigned a green status or have a stunting

prevalence of between 10 and 20 percent.

Wardoyo emphasized that the problem of high prevalence of stunting in NTT is not only about health or malnutrition in children but also about the ability of families to access health care facilities, the impact of poverty factors, and low level of education that are causal to the creation of wrong parenting patterns in families. He noted that the involvement of partners is important to expand the range of interventions in reducing stunting according to the set targets and the potential of the partners. (\*)